

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 9, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Minimal moisture was received across the state of Montana last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, approximately 88 percent of Montana is abnormally dry or in a current state of drought, with about 34 percent of the state in severe to exceptional drought. Topsoil moisture conditions were 43 percent adequate to surplus, down significantly from the previous year at 88 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were 38 percent adequate to surplus. Barley planted was estimated at 58 percent complete, falling slightly behind the 5-year average of 59 percent. Planting of dry edible beans progressed well this week, with an estimated 27 percent of the crop planted, behind the 5-year average of 35 percent. Durum wheat planting has progressed ahead of the previous year, with an estimated 30 percent of the crop planted. Oats planted is estimated at 31 percent complete, falling behind both the previous year and the 5-year average at 41 percent. Oilseed planting continues to progress well, with an estimated 30 percent of canola and 27 percent of flaxseed planted, both behind the 5-year averages of 35 percent and 33 percent, respectively. Spring wheat planted was reported at 53 percent complete, jumping slightly ahead of the 5-year average of 52 percent. Sugarbeet planting progressed well last week, with an estimated 43 percent of the crop planted, well behind the 5-year average of 64 percent. Winter wheat was reported with 95 percent of the crop breaking dormancy. Winter wheat conditions were rated as 49 percent good to excellent compared to 64 percent this time last year. Calving and lambing are nearing the end, with 91 percent of cows calved and 83 percent of ewes lambbed.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	58	38	60	59
Emerged.....	22	6	18	25
Canola				
Planted.....	30	18	35	35
Corn				
Planted.....	18	10	33	31
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Planted.....	27	15	31	35
Dry edible peas				
Planted.....	53	38	56	65
Emerged.....	13	1	10	20
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	30	16	23	36
Emerged.....	5	NA	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	27	20	29	33
Emerged.....	1	NA	NA	NA
Lentils				
Planted.....	42	30	42	51
Emerged.....	6	NA	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	31	20	22	29
Emerged.....	2	NA	NA	NA
Oats				
Planted.....	31	15	41	41
Emerged.....	5	1	9	12
Safflower				
Planted.....	20	6	19	14
Emerged.....	1	NA	NA	NA
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	53	33	48	52
Emerged.....	20	6	22	20
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	43	26	61	64
Emerged.....	9	4	13	NA
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy.....	95	87	NA	NA
Booted.....	2	1	1	8
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	91	86	86	92
Moved to pasture.....	33	17	52	45
Receiving supplemental feed.....	59	72	49	40
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambbed.....	83	79	83	87
Moved to pasture.....	32	20	51	45
Receiving supplemental feed.....	63	73	57	43

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work.....	5.4	6.2	5.6	5.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	29	31	2	3
Short.....	28	28	10	13
Adequate.....	41	39	84	77
Surplus.....	2	2	4	7
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	33	30	--	4
Short.....	29	36	7	16
Adequate.....	37	34	86	71
Surplus.....	1	--	7	9

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open.....	83	82	90	NA
Difficult.....	7	9	7	NA
Closed.....	10	9	3	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	28	27	--	2
Poor.....	26	33	2	7
Fair.....	32	33	45	43
Good.....	13	6	43	38
Excellent.....	1	1	10	10
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	4	2	1	2
Poor.....	19	20	3	5
Fair.....	28	32	32	29
Good.....	44	40	58	45
Excellent.....	5	6	6	19

NA – not available

(--) – zero